

SECURUS

TASK FORCE SIDEWINDER VIRTUAL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE I — July, 2006

***KNOW YOUR CHAIN
OF COMMAND
KNOW YOUR
MISSION***

Family Support
ready to assist

SERVICEMEMBERS
ARRIVE IN ARIZONA
FOR OPERATION
JUMP START

securus.jumpstart@gmail.com

SECURUS

SECURUS - Latin root word for security. Meaning safe, secure, free from care, unworried, unconcerned. The opposite of Securus is SECUS - wrongly, badly, not as one would wish.

SECURUS is also the name of the official newsletter for Task Force Sidewinder. If you have articles, information and photographs that you wish to contribute, please send them to sidewinder@gmail.com

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TASK FORCE SIDEWINDER Chain of Command:

BG Matthew J. Whittington
Joint Task Force Commander

MAJ Paul Babeu
Task Force Commander

MAJ Christopher Emmons
Deputy Commander

CSM James Elifritz
**Casa Grande,
Ajo and Yuma
Sectors**

CSM David Austin
Tucson Sector

Front Cover: The front cover photo was taken by professional photographer Christina Costabile—a graduate of the school of photography at ASU.



A border road between Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Mexico. This border represents one of the many border towns along the U.S. Mexico border.

WELCOME



Arizona servicemembers were the first of all four Border States (CA, NM, AZ and TX) to arrive in support of U.S. Customs and Border Patrol—Operation Jumpstart. Because of this rapid deployment, we have some issues with orders, hotel rooms, transportation and scheduling. I am facing these issues head on and I'm focused on resolving these concerns with our staff.

Dedicated and talented staff members in TF Sidewinder are working hard to take care of you. Necessary equipment, tools, safety gear and other needs have been ordered and we are continuing to further expand our ranks.

As many as 1,200 servicemembers from other states will be arriving over the next ten days and rotating on short tours, mainly for their Annual Training. Most are tasked with the Entry Identification Teams, yet some will help with Sidewinder missions, such as welding. We are accepting long term individual soldiers from outside AZ to join TF Sidewinder as well.

If you have any issues or personal concerns, use your chain of command and **NOT** Border Patrol or Liaison Officers — LNOs. If you have an issue that you believe has not been properly addressed by the chain of command, please contact me directly on my personal cell phone at 480-226-7166.

You should maintain a regular fitness program, in order to keep yourself in good physical condition, or for some - to start getting into better shape as we serve. Indeed, this is a great opportunity for all of us to serve our local community, state and nation right here at home. Our families, friends and fellow Americans are proud of our service – always remember that we serve and represent them. I ask that you be positive, courteous and always professional to each other and to Border Patrol employees — enjoy our mission!

All my best,

MAJ Paul Babeu
Commander
Task Force Sidewinder

WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

When you Need Assistance Family Support Group Can Help

"Make no mistake about it, troops from around the country are very much a part of the Arizona Guard family and we are ready to serve."

The Family Assistance Fund is available to help servicemembers serving on the Border Mission, who have "emergency" financial situations.

It is also possible to request assistance by sending a memo or just an email as long as it includes most of the data and information that is asked for on the form located on the next page.

Make sure you are as specific as possible in listing the need. You should specify the name of each creditor, the due date (or past due), and the amount due. It is NOT enough for a person to just ask for "\$1500.00 to pay bills."

A board must verify the need and we do not typically cover the extras... things like cable TV, credit card bills, dance lessons for the kids, etc.

Typical emergencies we can assist which result when a servicemember has little to no savings or any other way to delay payment of bills, and include things like the rent/mortgage, utilities, car payments, car insurance, car repairs, appliance/AC repair, food, gas.

Each situation is looked at individually, and if the

servicemember is able to call the creditor and ask for an extension to pay, when a payday is coming up soon, then you should try that first.

Assistance Fund instead of the AZNG-ERF, they operate in the same way and use the same criteria and type of judgment when reviewing requests received.



On any given day, you can stop by the Family Support Office and see a office bursting with activity. On this day members of the 1/285th Family Readiness pose with members of the Family Support staff.

We can also require that copies of the bills themselves be faxed or emailed along with the request.

If, however, if you provide a complete explanation of the situation and all the detailed information mentioned (amounts, due dates, etc), this may not be necessary.

Once you contact us, we can send a copy of the AZNG Emergency Relief Fund Commanders Guide.

Although servicemembers will be using the Family

Additionally, servicemembers with spouses geographically separated from their spouse, it is possible for the spouse to come into one of the Family Assistance Centers (Phoenix, Tucson) and fill out this paperwork.

Typically, if a loan is given, we will still need the soldier to sign for it unless the spouse has a power of attorney to allow them to sign legal documents.

The Family Assistance Centers are aware of other resources to help soldiers and have some food, hygiene, miscellaneous. Items that may be

of help to families who are in need as the household makes their transition for deployment.

The FAC in Tucson is run by Carmen Whirley at the Valencia Armory and the one here in Phoenix is located at the 52nd Street Armory (George Quihuis/Annette Garcia).

It will help, if servicemembers use/inform their Task Force Sergeants Major, and or let the J1 staff be the central receiving and processing staff.

We will contact you upon completion/approval and you can designate a staff member to come by and receive the check and promissory note – they will then be responsible to ensure it is delivered to the soldier and that the promissory note/receipt is signed by the servicemember and returned to us for our files.

FAF requests should be faxed to Danielle Salomon in the state office at (602) 267-2954, or via her email Danielle.salomon@azdema.gov Phone number is (602) 267-2731. Danielle is the primary processor for the Family Assistance Fund



THIN LINE

A truck drives along a border between Naco, Arizona and Naco Mexico, a popular crossing point

Photographed by: Vincent J Musi / TIME

HUMAN TOLL

A U.S. BORSTAR officer (Border Patrol Search Trauma and Rescue unit) carries a Mexican woman facing death after spending the night in a freezing rainstorm in the desert near Sasabe, Arizona

Photographed by: James Nachtwey / TIME



TRACKED DOWN

A group of more than 15 undocumented Aliens being held near Douglas, Arizona

Photographed by: Vincent J Musi / TIME



CAUGHT

A Border Patrol finds a group of illegal aliens on a rural road in Cochise County. The group is from the Mexican state of Michoacan, had crossed the boarder and was walking out of the Coronado National Forest, a frequent crossing point

Photographed by: Vincent J Musi / TIME

A BREAK IN THE LINE

The end of the fence, just west of Douglas, where "drive-thoroughs" can cross from Mexico on the left into the U.S. without obstruction

Photographed by: Vincent J Musi



Arizona Extreme Heat is Dangerous

The National Weather Service often predicts extreme temperatures during the summer months. Whether you are working or playing, drink plenty of water, use sunscreen and avoid outdoor activities in the hottest part of the day. Too much extreme heat can cause the following illnesses:

Heat Exhaustion:

Symptoms

Mild form of shock marked by heavy sweating, weakness, headache, weak pulse, dizziness, exhaustion, fainting, nausea or vomiting, and cold, clammy skin. However, you're body temperature will seem normal.

Treatment:

Call 911 for medical attention. If exhaustion is not treated, it can worsen and lead to heat stroke. Move the victim to a cool place. Loosen clothing and apply cool wet clothes to the neck, face and arms. If the victim is conscious, have him or her drink water slowly, unless nausea occurs.

Give the victim a glass of water every 15 minutes. Under no circumstance should an unconscious's person be given anything to drink. Watch carefully for changes in the victims condition.

Heat Stroke a.k.a Sunstroke

Symptoms:

The hallmark of heat stroke is mental status change – headache, dizziness, confusion or unconsciousness. Body temperature can be so high that brain damage or death may occur rapidly if the victim does not receive immediate medical attention.

Treatment:

Call 911 immediately for medical help.

Bring the victim to a cool place. Remove the victim's clothes and cool his or her body by wrapping it in wet sheets and fanning it. Watch for signs of breathing problems. Keep the victim lying down and as cool as possible.

Do NOT give the victim any fluids.

What is a Heat Emergency?

What is it that makes a very hot day a "heat emergency?" It is much more than just a high temperature. The National Weather Service has studied weather conditions in many areas of the country and has developed a formula that will tell when a potentially life threatening heat emergency will take place.

Here are three definitions you should know

Heat Advisory: When the temperature is forecast to be unusually hot but not life threatening.

Heat Watch: When a life threatening emergency may occur in the next 24—48 hours

Heat Warning: When a life threatening emergency exists or is imminent.

Extreme Hit Tips:

Keep an eye on those at risk – Check on elderly neighbors, homeless, or mentally ill who may need your help when the weather is dangerously warm.

Cars and heat don't mix – NEVER leave children, pets or people needing special care in parked cars when the temperature is high.

Remember your pets – Pets also need water, shade, and a cool place to rest.

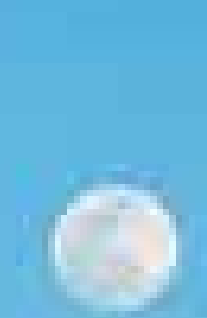
Drink plenty of water – Your body needs water to keep cool. Avoid beverages containing alcohol or caffeine.

Cover your head –When you have to be outside in the sun, make sure you and your small children have your heads protected.

Keep fresh air circulating – If you are not in a building with air conditioning, keep some windows or doors open slightly so fresh air can come in.

Baths and showers are good – Cool down with frequent cool baths or showers, but do not take a shower immediately after becoming overheated. You may cool down too quickly and become ill or dizzy.

When working outside – If you must work outside – take precautions - wear proper clothing, take frequent breaks, try and work during the very early morning hours, cover your head, drink plenty of water and slap on sunscreen that is SPF 15 or higher.





SMSgt Munoz is your Area Program Coordinator (APC) for Government Travel Cards (GTC)

It is important to go through your NCOIC if you have any questions about your GTC.

If you did not fill out an application for the GTC you will need to email SMSgt Munoz and he will send you an application. You will then fax, (602)267-2474, the signed application to his office.

It is very important that you let your first line supervisor know if you are having issues with your card.

You can check to see if you have an account by going to the following website:

www.gcsuthd.bankofamerica.com/account_lookup/default.aspx

Phone numbers to reach Bank of America (BoFA):

1.800.472.1424
Worldwide, toll-free 24 hours a day

James Munoz, SMSgt, AzANG
James.munoz2@us.army.mil
602-267-2902

J-8 NCOIC



A servicemember's level of physical fitness' has a direct impact on his combat readiness. The many battles in which American troops have fought underscore the important role physical fitness plays on the battlefield. The renewed nationwide interest in fitness has been accompanied by many research studies on the effects of regular participation in sound physical fitness programs.

The overwhelming conclusion is that such programs enhance a person's quality of life, improve productivity, and bring about positive physical and mental changes. Not only are physically fit servicemembers essential to the military, they are also more likely to have enjoyable, productive lives.

Physical fitness, is but one component of total fitness. Some of the others are weight control, diet and nutrition, stress management, dental health, and spiritual and ethical fitness, as well as the avoidance of hypertension, substance abuse, and tobacco use.

Commanders and leaders must ensure that all soldiers in their units maintain the highest level of physical fitness in accordance with military regulations which prescribes policies, procedures, and responsibilities for the physical fitness program.

Effective leadership is critical to the success of a good physical training program. Leaders, especially senior leaders, must understand and practice the doctrine of physical fitness. They must be visible and active participants in physical training programs. In short, leaders must lead PT! Their example will emphasize the importance of physical fitness training and will highlight it as a key element of the unit's training mission.

A poorly designed and executed physical fitness program hurts morale. A good program is well planned and organized, has reasonable yet challenging requirements, and is competitive and progressive. It also has command presence at every level with leaders setting the example for their troops.



TF Sidewinder would like members to share your photos and experience. Please send all photos and articles to:
Securus.jumpstart@gmail.com

What makes for a good photo and article - anything and everything thing. What makes for a bad photo and article— anything and everything.

However, the bad photos are usually a result of poor lighting and too many faceless bodies in the picture. i.e. backs of everyone's head etc.

Ideally, take a photo of something or someone "doing" something. Poses are good if it is group photo. With pictures of people of less than five, always remember to give us the names and the unit they belong to.

Photos of members over five, please let us know who they represent as an organization.

Professional photographers will tell you they still have to take lots of pictures just to get one photo worthy of mention.

So don't beat yourself up too bad. With digital cameras, the world of photography is a lot kinder.

Always remember to observe security policies before taking photos. Never take a photo of someone that does not wish to have his or her picture taken — it is just plain bad manners.



MAJ CHRISTOPHER EMMONS
Deputy Commander
TF SIDEWINDER

Greetings fellow TF Sidewinder service members! I hope your arrival and in-processing at the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Stations has gone well. Our mission, tasks and jobs have a direct impact on securing our international border with Mexico. Your role will allow CBP agents to return to core enforcement and interdiction duties. I am confident your professionalism will be recognized as you accomplish this historical mission. At the command level we continue to analyze new CBP mission requests to determine if your involvement will violate our "non-enforcement" role.

Our state and federal government has reached a critical juncture concerning the lack of security on the American-Mexican border. In response, the National Guard has been called to provide assistance in this crisis. Make no mistake about it – our mission will be seen by some as political, prejudiced and conflicting. However, as we maintain our military ethos, history will demonstrate our mission was not only professional but dignified and compassionate.

I am a native of this beautiful state. I have family in many southern border cities. These family members have seen the devastation and turmoil caused by the flow of undocumented immigrants and narcotics across the border. No matter what our politics are we should always be aware that our actions will help relieve the human suffering on both sides of the border.

Thank you again for your sense of duty and your call to service. As your Deputy Commander my primary mission is the coordination with the Task Force staff sections which ensure the health, morale and welfare of our assigned servicemembers. I can be reached at 602-620-8351

In this endeavor I will always strive to live by the phrase, "Mission First; People Always." I salute you and look forward to meeting each and every one of you!

A SIDEWINDER WEBSITE HIGHLIGHT

http://www.tricare.osd.mil - TRICARE Handbook: 3.4 - TRICARE Standard - Microsoft Internet Explorer

HOME A to Z SEARCH CONTACT US SITE MAP WEB SITE FEEDBACK

TRICARE Handbook

Chapter No. 3 - A Look at TRICARE

TRICARE Standard

TRICARE Standard is what once was called the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS). The name has been changed to TRICARE Standard—one of the three TRICARE options that are available to TRICARE-eligible people. TRICARE Standard shares most of the costs of care from civilian hospitals and doctors when you don't get care through a uniformed services hospital or clinic. But there are certain important things you need to know about TRICARE Standard before using it.

- The lowest cost medical care is available from MTFs.
- Benefits and costs vary for different categories of eligible persons.
- While you might be eligible to use MTFs, your access may be restricted based on the MTF's capacity to see patients.
- Some people are not eligible for TRICARE Standard, such as active duty service members, dependent parents, and parents-in-law. (See the section called "Who's Eligible For TRICARE?" for details.)
- TRICARE Standard **is not free**. You must pay part of your medical costs, as well as everything TRICARE Standard doesn't cover. (See the section called "How Much Will It Cost?" for cost information.)



**CSM
DAVID AUSTIN
Tucson Sector**

Welcome to TF Sidewinder. I hope this tour of duty is both interesting and challenging.

As the task force is being built up, one thing is certain there will be on going changes until the program is well defined and the guidelines are well established.

The key to our initial success is flexibility as these changes are addressed and resolved. Should these changes create confusion or uncertainty for you, don't hesitate to ask for clarification.

As in all military projects, regardless of the mission, professionalism is of the utmost importance both on and off duty.

No matter who you are dealing with, always remember your actions

reflect on you, your fellow service-members, as well as the Army and Air National Guard.

Our objective is to provide support to the Border Patrol by providing non-enforcement duties. Thus allowing the agents currently performing those duties to return to the field and perform enforcement coverage along the border.

If an issue arises, the chain of command cannot resolve it if they are not aware of it. Use your chain of command to bring issues forward. If the issue is personal or non-mission related, we need to know about it to resolve it.

Again, welcome to TF Sidewinder, and remember professionalism is important in everything you do.

Welcome! I am very proud that you are serving on our team. You are very much needed and appreciated. I am here to insure that your professional and personal issues are being worked.

It is most important that you are using the chain of command to work your issues. It is my job to make sure the lanes are clear so that we can reach a resolve in a most timely manner possible.

As you are aware our mission is being watched by the international community and American people. Indeed, they have a right to feel assured that we are doing a professional job and giving 110 percent.

You will, at times, receive both compliments and criticism from all directions. What is most important is that we maintain our military bearing in the face of any challenges both local and national.

Equally important, get to know The Border Patrol professionals that you will be working with on a daily basis.

You will soon realize that each of you will be responsible for the other's success.

In the short time TF Sidewinder has been operating, we have accomplished a lot to be proud of. Make no mistake about it — the road ahead is long and challenging.

Finally, I want you to be conscious of the cultural sensitivity that surrounds our mission. The Hispanic communities are a proud and welcomed people of the state of Arizona. Their contribution and importance to our state and nation cannot and should not be denied.

Learn about the diversity of Arizona — I am sure you will walk away with a profound respect for what this state has to offer in terms of both it's rich culture and deep heritage.



**CSM
JAMES ELIFRITZ
Casa Grande,
Ajo and Yuma Sectors**